SIGSAC CACM Research Highlights Nomination Process

1) **Which conferences/meetings can candidate papers be selected from?**
   - **ACM CCS** (> 100 papers/year, Nov)
   - **ACM SACMAT** (~ 20 papers/year, June)
   - **ACM ASIACCS** ~ 70 papers/year, May/June)
   - **ACM WiSec** (~ 30 papers/year, May-Jul)
   - **ACM CODASPY** (~ 25 papers/year, Mar/Apr)
   - ACM journal: **ACM TOPS** (~ 35 papers/year, all year)
   - SIGSAC-conference co-located **workshops** with a coherent presence for at least 10 years and an acceptance of min. 15 papers/year (such as AISec (since 2008), CCSW (since 2009), WPES (since 2002) (e.g., for CCS-related workshops see here)

Non-ACM/Non-SIGSAC conferences (IEEE S&P, USENIX Security, ISOC NDSS) may be considered, but do not need to be pursued actively (need licensing/publication agreements).

2) **What selection process do we use?**

We intend to establish a standing committee (the **SIGSAC CACM Research Highlights Committee**) to select paper to nominate, comprised of the following people, each serving a two-year term (with an initial serving term of one year for ASIACCS, WiSec, and CODASPY, so that not everybody's term expires at the same time):
   - one member of the SIGSAC Executive Committee (Chair)
   - SIGSAC Chair (ex officio member)
   - a steering committee member of each of the five SIGSAC conferences (can be the conference steering committee chair or a delegate from the steering committee, but needs to be approved by the EC)
   - a member at large appointed by the SIGSAC EC to cover the co-located workshops, journal(s) and other venues eligible to propose

As meetings grow (or shrink) in stature, we will periodically review the composition of the committee and respond appropriately, by either adding or dropping meeting delegates. Community members can request such changes by contacting the committee chair.

Eligibility: All papers published in the covered conferences within the **previous two years** will be considered by the committee. Papers published in meetings not in the above list are also eligible for consideration, but the committee does not take responsibility for proactively considering these venues. Community members may ask the committee to consider papers from such venues through the community-nomination process, described below.

Committee Candidates: Each of the members of the committee covering a particular conference will be responsible for reviewing the papers for that meeting in consultation with others from that community. We anticipate that this committee member will at least contact the program chairs for the relevant meeting and ask the chair to suggest one or two papers for consideration. We encourage the program chair to solicit input from members of the program committee. The committee member will then bring potential papers to the committee for a discussion.

Community Candidates: Community members not on the committee may ask for papers to be considered by [submitting to the committee chair a nominating proposal](). Such a proposal must summarize the contribution of the paper and explain why the paper is suitable for inclusion in the CACM research series. Such a nominating proposal should be no more than a page in length. Authors may not self-nominate. Proposals may be made anytime.

Selection Process: The full committee (minus people with conflicts of interest) will discuss the candidate papers **once or twice a year by email and/or a virtual meeting**, both those arising from the committee and from any community candidates. The committee may solicit input from outside experts on the merits of any candidate papers. The committee will select for nomination to CACM those 3-5 papers per year that will benefit from the broad exposure afforded by CACM, taking into consideration

a) the technical quality of the result (work must be a strong, novel research contribution),
b) the likely interest from computer scientists in other areas and accessibility to a larger audience in the ACM community,
c) the potential to create excitement (papers should have a little extra "pop" that sets them apart even from other strong results in their field), and
d) the potential to summarize the results in an 8-page paper.

For each paper nominated, the committee will send to CACM:

1. a copy of the paper
2. a description of why the paper merits publication in CACM (1/2 page)
3. a list of possible people (2-5) to write the Technical Perspective

Conflicts of Interest: Committee members may not nominate their own papers for consideration. Committee members may not participate in the discussion whether one of their papers may be nominated to CACM. Other conflicts of interest should be disclosed to the committee chair, who will decide how to handle such conflicts. Committee members may recuse themselves from the discussion of any paper for reasons of conflict of interest. Papers by committee members may be nominated by the community-nomination process.

Publicity: The procedures under which this committee runs will be posted on the ACM SIGSAC web site, as will the names of the people currently serving on the committee. Information about how to submit a paper to the committee will be on the web site. Each paper that the committee nominates to CACM will be listed on a web page in recognition of its high quality and interest.

3) **What is the timeline for nominating papers?**
The committee meets electronically **at least once, possibly twice per year**: in **Nov/Dec** (after CCS and co-located meetings) and in **June** (after SACMAT, ASIACCS, CODASPY and co-located meetings, possibly after WiSec). If the committee deems any papers published within the preceding time frame have met the threshold for nomination to CACM, the committee will submit nominations at that time. The total number of papers to be nominated by SIGSAC per year is **3-5 papers**. The committee could strive to nominate 1-3 papers per nomination meeting time if two meetings are held, or 3-5 papers if one meeting is held only.

This Procedure got inspired by the [SIGPLAN CACM Research Highlights Nomination]() Proposal (https://www.sigplan.org/sites/default/files/CACM-nominating-committee-proposal.pdf).

2022/23 SIGSAC CACM Research Highlights Committee Members:

- Christina Poepper (Chair), New York University Abu Dhabi
- Yan Chen (Co-Chair), Northwestern University
- Trent Jaeger, The Pennsylvania State University
- Jorge Lobo, Pompeu Fabra University
- Panos Papadimitratos, KTH Stockholm
- Ravi Sandhu, University of Texas at San Antoni
- XiaoFeng Wang, Indiana University
- Jianying Zhou, Singapore University of Technology and Design

This Procedure got inspired by the SIGPLAN CACM Research Highlights Nomination Proposal (https://www.sigplan.org/sites/default/files/CACM-nominating-committee-proposal.pdf).